

(b) the number of contracts which have expired their term and those which are still valid among them;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the work of the foreign Companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts being made by the Government to replace foreign contracts by indigenous ones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) The number of contracts awarded to foreign companies in the coal sector during the last two years is 23.

(b) Out of the above 23 contracts, 8 contracts have since been executed and the balance 15 were on-going contracts.

(c) and (d). The progress of these contracts is closely reviewed from time to time at the Coal Company and Government levels. The progress of these contracts have generally been found to be satisfactory.

(e) For the introduction of new technology and to improve production, productivity, safety and higher rate of coal recovery, selective bilateral cooperation is sought from other countries having such expertise. Contracts are awarded to foreign companies after the Govt. is satisfied that the technology and equipment proposed to be imported are not indigenously available and where financial assistance is made available by the collaborating country.

#### **Exploration for Graphite Reserves in Ranchi, Bihar**

4704. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any survey for locating graphite in district Ranchi, Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(d) if not, the time by which the exploration work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) The information so far available with Geological Survey of India (GSI) have not revealed any potential graphite mineralisation in Ranchi district of Bihar. There is no proposal for exploration of graphite in this district.

[English]

#### **Global Initiative to Help Third World Economics**

4705. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he called for a global initiative to help the deteriorating economics of the third world during the recent address to the Ministerial level meeting of the Group of 77 held in New York; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the other member countries thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. In a recent address, he welcomed the United

Nations Secretary General's proposal for an international conference on the financing of development. This proposal was subsequently endorsed in the Ministerial declaration of the Group of 77 adopted during that meeting on 30th September 1991.

### **Shortage of LPG in Delhi**

4706. SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES:  
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of LPG in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the consumers have to wait for long time for getting the gas cylinders replaced,

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the remedial measures taken in this regard;

(e) the number of gas cylinders required per month in Delhi and the number of cylinders supplied to it during the last twelve months, month-wise; and

(f) number of gas connections in Delhi giving separate figures for domestic and commercial use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

### **Flood Control Projects in Uttar Pradesh**

4707 SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the

Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details including the estimated cost of each of the flood control projects in Uttar Pradesh which are pending with the Union Government;

(b) the time by which those are likely to be cleared;

(c) the details of the on-going flood control projects in the State; and

(d) the benefits derived from those projects so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Out of 31 flood management schemes costing Rs. 80 crores received for technical appraisal, 10 schemes costing Rs. 17 crores have been recommended to the Planning Commission for approval. Observations on others, except three received recently, have been sent for compliance to the State Government.

(b) The time of clearance depends mainly on the prompt submission of satisfactory replies to the observations by the State Government.

(c) and (d). At present there are about 400 schemes for construction of marginal embankments, anti-erosion works, drainage and town protection works and an amount of Rs. 20 crores is proposed to be spent during 1991-92. The flood protection benefits derived from various projects cover an area of 14.87 lakh hectares upto the end of the VIth Plan.

### **Jute Research Centres in Uttar Pradesh**

4708. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: